

THE INDEPENDENT

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V. J. TESTA, Proprietor and Publisher.

EDMUND NORRIS, Editor.
Residing in Honolulu.

MONDAY, FEB. 11, 1901.

AN OBNOXIOUS BILL.

It is refreshing indeed to read the following from an editorial in the "liberal" Republican in its frantic defense of a bill to which the voters at large undoubtedly are opposed:

There are people to be found in every community who fume, fume and foam at the mouth whenever a reform of any sort whatever is suggested. This class as a rule do not investigate, do not study, do not think; they content to deny, to assent and to protest. The fact that the thing suggested is "something new," "not what we have been used to," "a new fangled idea," is to their unformed minds and immature judgment sufficient to condemn it.

We happen to be opposed to any important measure which has not been submitted to the voters who sent men to the Legislature to represent them and their interests on the lines of the platform on which they were elected. The Dispensary Liquor bill will never find favor here and the conditions existing here do not warrant the introduction of the measure which might do well in the State of South Carolina with its overwhelming majority of ignorant negroes, whom the men, who on the point of the bayonet, put the bill in force want to deprive them of a voice in public matters through constitutional measures, if possible, but otherwise with Senator Tillman's shotgun, his favorite argument in dealing with the negro question.

We take issue with Senator Russell who is the father of the proposed bill because he has no right to introduce a measure of such a far reaching importance without the authority of his constituents. There are members of the Home Rule party who view the matter in the same light; who claim that it is not a party measure and that they would offer an insult to the men who voted for them by supporting a bill which will meet with a general opposition. The Republican in its inspired article refer to our unformed minds and immature judgment. We have probably studied the liquor question in many countries with more care than has the father of the bill who had to "read up" the South Carolina law a few weeks before he left Hilo to bring his forty-five pages bill to Honolulu. We believe that every intelligent Hawaiian objects to being compared to the negroes of South Carolina and even more so to the ignorant peasants of Russia. It was about time that some kind of bill was introduced in Russia to check the miserable peasantry of that misruled country from killing the last fibre in their dull brains with vodka. The Hawaiians may occasionally drink methylated alcohol and Florida water when nothing else is in sight but he draws the line at some of those beverages with which the Russian serf wash down his refreshing meal of tallow candles.

We don't know when the father of the bill here or the Republican man were last in Russia, but we can assure them that the Dispensary law does not extend to the wealthy classes, to the hotels, clubs and pub-

lic resorts. Russia imported more champagne and more fine liquors last year than any country in the world and we doubt that it was sold from distilleries and that the man pouring the costly fluid out to the ballet dancers in St. Petersburg remembered to go back to the distillery to sell the empty bottles for from one to five kopees according to its size.

The Gothenburg system has had great result in Sweden, says our numerous temperance lecturers, and yet Sweden has the distinction of being second on the list as consumer of spirituous liquors and third on the list in the matter of suicides, of the countries in Europe. Hawaii is a very small consumer of liquor in proportion to her population. Of course the cranks who wish to revolutionize the liquor traffic will claim that the reason is that the Chinese who form a large part of our population do not drink liquor to any extent, but as an offset we remind them that Honolulu during the past few years has become a prominent sea port and garrison town and that our numerous Japanese population by no means can be classed among the temperance people.

No harm will be done, however, by introducing the bill if it is understood that no attempt will be made to rush it through at this session. If it is referred to a committee to report at the meeting of the next Legislature, well and good. The issue will then be laid before the people and there will be ample of time for each voter to improve his "uninformed mind and immature judgment," before he gives his answer at the polls.

It should be remembered that there are other interests involved in the question than those of the liquor dealers. The interests of our hotels and owners of ships should be considered. We are hearing so much about tourist travelling and the wealth there is in store for the territory if tourists are induced to visit our lovely land. How many tourists would visit Hawaii if we had the Dispensary Law here? What kind of hotels would we have when no wines could be served to the guests who probably during their whole life had been accustomed to the bottle at the table? We know that there is a tendency to rush the proposed bill through the coming session, and we urge every Hawaiian voter, who does not wish to be compared to a South Carolina nigger or a Russian peasant to instruct their representatives to vote against a bill until the country has had its say. If the majority at the next election endorses the bill, let it become law. It will become so then after due deliberation and after the voters have had a fair chance to consider the merits of the bill. To push it through at this session would establish an unfair, unjust and dishonest precedent.

AN IMPRESSIVE SERVICE.

Rich and Poor of All Nationalities Pay Their Respects to the Late Queen Victoria.

Hushed and solemn was the beautiful Cathedral of St. Andrew's yesterday when the many people from every land and of every station in life filed in to show their respect for the great Queen and the noble woman, in honor of whom the ecclesiastical representative of the great Empire held an impressive service. The day was dark and our sunny skies were clouded as if even the powers above have joined in the last homage which the Anglican congregation and the representatives of all mundane authority offered through the eloquent words of Alfred Willis, Bishop of Honolulu, the head of the Anglican Church in far away Hawaii.

The massive pillars supporting the chancel arch were draped on the south side in the flag of the United States, and on the north with the Union Jack and German flag united. Large bows of streaming crepe were on the Union Jack.

The pillars in the chancel displayed the flags of Russia, France, Italy and Austria-Hungary. On those in the nave hung the flags of Spain, Portugal, Sweden and Norway, Denmark and Belgium. Over the south door the Dragon of China was draped, and over the main entrance hung the Hawaiian flag. Round the capitals from which hung the flags were bands of crepe, denoting the solemnity of the occasion. The flags were those of the respective countries whose consuls answered the invitations to be present.

The audience arrived early and were escorted to their seats by Messrs. Edmund Stiles, Lionel A. Hart, Fred. W. Wood, Solomon Mehenla, Henry Smith, and F. J. Testa, who attended to the duties of ushers.

In spite of the inclement weather the cathedral was filled and the solemn service and the impressive address by His Lordship struck the right chord into the hearts of those assembled.

Bishop Willis was assisted by Rev. Cannon Kiteat, Rev. A. B. Weymouth, M. D., of the Diocese of Los Angeles, and Rev. Hamilton Lee of the Diocese of California.

Rev. Kong Yin Tet, of St. Peter's Chapel, acted as Chaplain to the Bishop and carried the pastoral staff.

At the organ presided Mr. Wray Taylor in his usual masterly manner and the regular church choir was supplemented by a choir of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Vaniman, Mrs. Hoffman and Mr. F. W. Beardsley who kindly had volunteered their services.

The memorial service was an honor to the Anglican Church in Hawaii and to the Bishop who conscientiously could exhort his flock and all others to do homage to the late beloved Queen, the Defender of their Faith.

The Mauda Loa did not leave today but may sail to-morrow. The Kraubou arrived this morning and reported very rough weather on the Kona coast and brought the news that the Kinsu would leave Hilo on her home trip this morning.

Contractor Anderson, fell down in a faint while waiting outside the Postoffice this morning, and struck his head against the sidewalk in quite a serious manner. The injured man declined the offers of police authorities to convey him to the Hospital.

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BY AUTHORITY.

Samuel McKeague, Esq., has this day been appointed, Keeper of Powder Magazine, for the City of Honolulu, Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, vice W. T. Monserat.

J. A. McCANDLESS,
Supt. of Public Works.
Public Works Dept., Honolulu,
Febry. 1, 1901.

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